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About a month ago, I purchased a new car with XM Radio installed. In that short time, my XM instant traffic channel has already kept me from missing an important appointment. I was approaching a stretch of Los Angeles freeway that I knew would occasionally be clogged, so I decided to hit my XM instant traffic and weather preset. The first item up was a report that Interstate 5 was sluggish from the 134 to the 10 and that it was currently taking 29 minutes to cover that stretch. My appointment was in 15 minutes and that was my intended route. I had one exit left to avoid the mess, so I got off the freeway and made my appointment on time. I have been driving for 40 years and can honestly say that I have never before re-routed based on a radio traffic report. When I have seen a freeway slowing down, I have tried seeking out traffic reports of standard broadcast radio but I have never before been able to find pertinent information in time to make a correction.

I will never have a car without XM radio. Please reject NAB's petition 04-160. Broadcast radio will just have to improve their service to compete. We can't limit the marketplace by insisting that one party must decrease the level of service they provide the consumer.